(b) Extracts from the resolutions passed by the Panchayatdars in the Adoor constituency held on 14th Makaram 1101 and copy of resolution passed on 18th Vrischigam 1108 by the Kallur-Thekkummuri Panchayat are appended. (*Appendix VII.*)

(c) (i) 9 furlongs.
(ii) about 4 miles.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Has any approximate estimate been made of the cost of this 9 furlongs?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Yes.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—What is the probable cost?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It comes to Rs. 14,000.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is it not the estimate of the road taken along fields?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It is an estimate prepared for a road which is considered appropriate for the place.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is not the alignment lying through paddy fields and compounds?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Chiefly the alignment is lying through paddy fields.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Does not the estimate include acquisition charges?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Yes.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will there not be an appreciable reduction in that estimate?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—There will be a reduction of Rs. 2,000.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Have not many of the people of the locality offered to give lands?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Yes. People have agreed to give lands. But it will not suit the required purpose.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Has the local Panchayat proposed any alternative road?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The local Panchayat has not proposed any alternative road. They simply proposed the necessity for opening a road in that direction.

Damage—crops—Poyya, etc., villages.

77. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have received a telegram and a petition from the Poyya Agriculturers' Association, pointing out the severe and extensive damage done to the crops this year by exceptionally heavy rains and sudden floods in the villages of Poyya, Madathumpadi and Kuruvilacheri;

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(b) if so, what are the reliefs prayed for in the petition;

(c) have the Government so far sanctioned any of these reliefs;

(d) have any of the officers of the Government visited the said villages in response to the petition referred to above; and if so, have they submitted any report to the Government in case they have; will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of that report?

Mr. K Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) To grant them a total remission of tax and rent for the year 1109 to render them substantial monetary help for the purchase of seeds and manure, and to take steps to relieve them generally from heavy indebtedness.

(c) The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

(d) The Tahsildar and the Diwan Peishkar have visited the villages. A copy of the Diwan Peishkar's report dated 4th November 1933, No. D. 1813/1109, on the subject is appended. (*Appendix VIII*).

Reduction of 12½% Land Revenue.

78. Mr. P. Krishna Menon—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any instructions were issued to the subordinate revenue officers to prepare the kistbandi statement deducting 12½% from land revenue as adumbrated in the budget for 1109;

(b) if issued, what is the date of the earliest order;

(c) is it not a fact that no instructions were issued before 15th Kanni 1109, the date on which the returns are generally prepared;

(d) is it not a fact that in consequence of the delay in issuing instructions, all the statements throughout the State were prepared without making any deduction whatever;

(e) is it not a fact that Thulam and Vrischigam instalments were realised without making any deductions;

(f) is it not the practice throughout the State that revenue demands below one rupee are always collected in one instalment both in the case of paddy lands and paramba;

(g) has not the delay caused enormous increase in the work of the subordinate staff in the preparation of accounts;

(h) what is the Government proposal in the case of those realisations of below one rupee where no more amounts are to be realised from those pattadars?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes, the deduction being at the rate of 18¾ per cent.

(b) The earliest order is dated 15th Vrischigam 1109.

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APPENDIX VIII.

Report D. 1813/1109 dated 4th November 1933 from the Diwan Peishkar.

Subject.—Rainfall—Floods—Destruction of crops, etc.

There have been no floods or destruction of crops, etc., on account of recent heavy rains in Cochin. There was continuous and heavy rainfall throughout the State recently on two or three days *viz.*, 3rd, 4th and 5th Thulam. The rains were specially heavy in the southern Taluks. The Tahsildar of Cochin-Kanayannur reports that although the Mundakan cultivation in that Taluk has been slightly affected by the excess water, the rains have not raised any flood. The Cranganur Deputy Tahsildar has also reported that there were no floods, worth mentioning in his area, on account of the recent rains. He further reports that no damage has been caused to the crops in that Taluk. Reports from the Tahsildars of Northern Taluks are still pending but my personal enquiries show that there have been no floods anywhere in the higher northern Taluks. The copy of the telegram from the President, Agricultural Samajam, Poyya, forwarded to me for very urgent report is full of exaggerations and half truths.

2. Yesterday I personally went and inspected the place supposed to be the scene of 'the terrible damage'. I found only a few fields there with crops affected to any extend by excess water. It was not all clear that even this was the result of the recent rains. The lands are very low lying ones and lie touching a poramboke Thodu and lie almost on a level with it. I have instructed the Mukundapuram Tahsildar who was with me at the time of inspection to make a field-war investigation and inspection with a view to find out whether the slight damage seen caused as a matter of fact is due to the rains on the 3 days mentioned above or due to other causes such as belated attempts at cultivation etc., in fields already suffering from a superabundance of water due to the prolonged south-west monsoon.

3. I shall submit my final report after receipt of detailed information from the Mukundapuram Tahsildar and the reports of the Talappilly and Chittur Tahsildars. In the meantime I may state that there is, in my view, no necessity for any immediate preventive action.

(True copy)

Sd. Diwan Peishkar.

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